

INFORMATION

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July 28, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR:

HENRY A. KISSINGER

FROM:

TOM LATIMER

SUBJECT:

Uruguay - A Model of Rich Countries
on the Decline?

Ordinarily you might not want to take the time to read a memo about a small Latin American country like Uruguay, but this one is worth your while -- not because of what it says about Uruguay per se, but because what it says about alienated youth in what was a prosperous, successful, primarily middle-class country has implications far beyond the boundaries of Uruguay. The author himself suggests that what is happening in Uruguay may provide a model of what will happen in other advanced countries which may be swept under by the rapid pace of technological change.

The nihilism of the Tupamaros is examined with insight and sensitivity. The problem of the alienation of youth from the values of their parents (generational politics) is linked by the author to the interesting phenomenon of a parent generation which is no longer certain that its way of doing things is more valid than the radical approach.

My own feeling is that the author may have written off the Tupamaros too soon but, on balance, I believe this is one of the best written and most thoughtful memos to come out of CIA in some time.

Attachment

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